

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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USIA-15 OMB-01 EUR-12 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIEP-02

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R 180500Z NOV 74

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 177

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

CINCPAC

UNCLAS PORT MORESBY 0367

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV PINT PP

SUBJECT: SOMARE CUTS CABINET TO TEN

1. ON NOVEMBER 14, ACCORDING LOCAL PRESS, CHIEF MINISTER SOMARE ANNOUNCED THAT THE CABINET HAD BEEN REDUCED FROM 19 TO 10 MEMBERS. THE NINE MINISTERS REMOVED FROM THE CABINET WILL FORM A NEW GENERAL BUSINESS COMMITTEE DESIGNED TO EASE THE WORKLOAD OF THE CABINET. COMMENTING ON THE CHANGES, THE CHIEF MINISTER STATEDQUOTE THEY ARE INTENDED TO ALLOW MINISTERS MORE TIME TO CONSIDER POLICY ISSUES, AND TO ENSURE THAT ALL MINISTERS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAN A FULL ROLE IN QUOTE THE DECISION MAKING UNQUOTE. THE SPLITTING IS NOT MEANT TO BE SEEN AS A DOWNGRADING OF THE NINE MINISTERS, RATHER IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT MEMBERSHIP IN THE GENERAL BUSINESS COMMITTEE WILL PLACE MORE RESPONSIBILITY ON SOME MINISTERS WHO, DUE TO THE SIZE OF THE FORMER CABINET, AND TIME CONSTRAINTS, UNCLASSIFIED

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HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO SPEAK ON SOME MATTERS EVEN

THOUGH THEY HAD BEEN PRESENT IN THE FORMER CABINET.

2. HOWEVER, IT WILL STILL BE THE CABINET WHICH DEALS WITH MATTERS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE.

3. THE CABINET NOW CONSISTS OF:

1. CHIEF MINISTER SOMARE

2. DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER GUISE

3. FINANCE MINISTER CHAN

4. LANDS MINISTER KAVALI

5. DEFENSE FOREIGN RELATIONS AND TRADE MINISTER KIKI

6. MINES AND ENERGY MINISTER LAPUN

7. COMMERCE MINISTER OLEWALE

8. NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER REA

9. TRANSPORT AND CIVIL AVIATION MINISTER OKUK

10. NATURAL RESOURCES MINISTER JEPHCOTT

4. MR. KIKI WILL BE IN BOTH GROUPS AS HE IS ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS COMMITTEE. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS COMMITTEE ARE:

1. COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER DIRIA (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN)

2. EDUCATION MINISTER TAUREKA (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN)

3. HEALTH MINISTER MOLA

4. OMTEROPR MINISTER POE

5. WORKS MINISTER BELO

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6. CULTURE AND RECREATION MINISTER SASAKILA

7. CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT MINISTER TAGO

8. LOCAL GOVERNMENT MINISTER SALI

9. POLICE MINISTER LUS

5. NO JUSTICE MINISTER HAS YET BEEN APPOINTED. THE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS MATTERS REFERRED TO IT BY THE CABINET - EITHER MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET OR REACHING A FINAL DECISION ON THESE MATTERS ITSELF.

6. IN ASSOCIATED DEVELOPMENTS IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND NATIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEES OF THE CABINET WOULD HAVE EXPENDED RESPONSIBILITIES.

7. THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE (OF THE CABINET) WILL NOW BE RESPONSIBLE FOR APPOINTING THE HEADS OF OVERSEAS MISSIONS.

8. THE NATIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE WILL OVERSEE THE POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AQUISITION OF ALIENATED LANDS.

9. COMMENT TO FOLLOW SEPTTEL.
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